(d) the steps being taken to get back these ancient objects?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Objects have been returned.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Renovation of Historical sites in Tamil Nadu

5383. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will undertake repair and renovation of the historical sites in Tamil Nadu to maintain the sites in their original shape; and

(b) if so, what is the time schedule?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The conservation of the centrally protected monuments in Tamil Nadu, is a continuous process. It is taken up as per their actual requirements, on archaeological norms, depending on the availability of resources.

Protection of Hampi from construction of bridges over Tungabhadra

5384. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the construction of two bridges over Tungabhadra will affect the Hampi's heritage status;

(b) whether the UNESCO authorities are expressing concern in the matter; and

(c) the steps Government propose to protect the World Heritage Status of Hampi?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The World Heritage Site of Hampi has been declared as an endangered site by the UNESCO in view of construction of two bridges at the site.

(c) The Government of Karnataka, on the advise of Government of India has set up a high level Task force to take up long term corrective measures for the preservation and maintenance of Hampi monuments.